

Losing Success

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Vocabulary

Part One: Match these adjectives with their meanings.

(2 points each) Score _____ /10

1. pleased	a. popular	1. _____
2. brave	b. respected	2. _____
3. liked by many people	c. happy	3. _____
4. known by many people	d. plucky	4. _____
5. very good, admired	e. famous	5. _____

Part Two: Use the pictures to help you understand the words below. Draw a line from the words to the pictures.



race, racehorse, jockey, trainer, racecourse, stopwatch, clipboard, fans

B: Discussion Discuss these questions with your group for 5- 10 minutes. After you have finished, write your answers.

1. Have you been in an important race, game, or competition? Did you win? Lose? Describe it to your group.

2. When you win, how do you feel?

3. When you lose, how do you feel? Do you try again?

Reading Activity

A: Matching Questions And Answers

Read Part One OUT LOUD with your group. As you are reading, circle all the words that you don't know. After you read the article, look up the words you circled in your dictionary.

Part One

Plucky Racehorse Loses Again

TOKYO Tue Mar 23 (Reuters) - A Japanese racehorse, who is famous because she has lost so many races, lost another race on Monday. Haru-urara lost her 106th race at the Kochi Racecourse, southwest of Tokyo.

13,000 people came to watch the race. They wanted to see if Japan's most respected jockey, Yutaka Take, could help her win a race. (Continued/...)

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Now, match the answer with the right question below. (Be careful: there are two extra answers!)

(2 points each) Score ____ /10

1. Who or what is Haru-urara?	a. He is the most respected jockey in Japan.	1. ____
2. Why is she famous?	b. It is a racecourse in Japan.	2. ____
3. How many races has she lost?	c. She is a Japanese racehorse.	3. ____
4. Who is Yutaka Take?	d. She has lost so many races.	4. ____
5. Did Haru-urara win the race at Kochi Racecourse?	e. She has won so many races.	5. ____
	f. 106 races.	
	g. No, she didn't.	

B: Reading And Thinking

Read Part One again and answer these questions. Use your own ideas as well the article. Then compare your answers with your group.

(2 points each) Score ____ /6

1. Why did 13,000 people come to watch the race?

2. Why is Haru-urara so special?

3. Why did Yutaka Take ride Haru-urara?

C: Finding Information

Read Part Two of the article OUT LOUD with your group. As you are reading, circle all the words that you don't know. After you read the article, look up the words you circled in your dictionary.

Part Two

(.../Continued) There were 11 horses in the race. Haru-urara came 10th.

"All the fans seem to be going home happy," said a reporter for Asahi TV. "They feel that it was OK for her to lose."

"I don't really know why she's so popular," her trainer, Dai Muneishi said in an interview. "But I

guess the biggest reason is that the sight of her running with all her heart despite having lost more than 100 times gives comfort to people's hearts," he said. Haru-urara will star in a movie later this year. When she retires, she will live on a farm in northern Japan.

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(2 points each) Score ____ /14

1. In the race 9 horses finished...

- a. in front of Haru-urara.
- b. behind Haru-urara.

2. The people who came to watch the race felt...

- a. happy when Haru-urara lost.
- b. sad when Haru-urara lost.

3. When Haru-urara lost the race, the people thought it...

- a. was very bad.
- b. was OK.

4. Haru-urara...

- a. isn't very popular in Japan.
- b. is very popular in Japan.

5. Haru-urara's trainer thinks Haru-urara makes people feel happy because...

- a. she tries to win each race.
- b. she doesn't try to win each race.

6. There will be a movie about...

- a. Haru-urara.
- b. Haru-urara's trainer.

7. Haru-urara will live on a farm...

- a. when she has won a race.
- b. when she is old and can't race.

Post-Reading

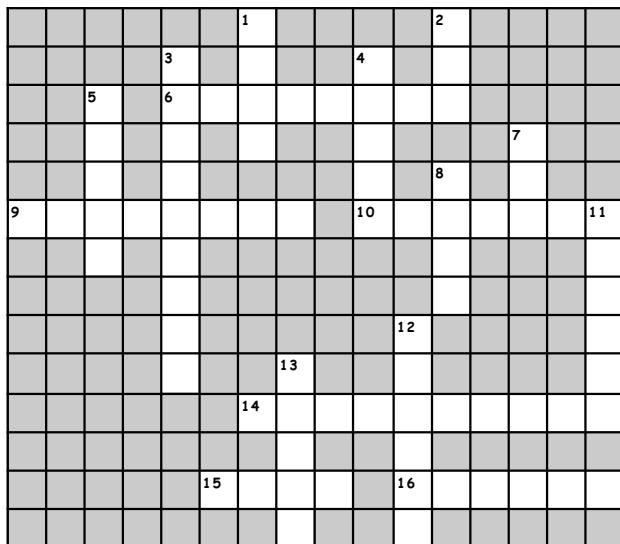
A: Group Interview

Fill in the chart by asking your group mates these questions. For Questions 6 & 7 make your own questions about "sports".

	Group Member A	Group Member B	Group Member C
1. What sports do you play?			
2. What sports do you like to watch on TV? Why?			
3. Who is your favorite sportsperson? Why?			
4. What is the most boring sport to watch? Why?			
5. What is the most popular sport in Japan? Why?			
6. _____?			
7. _____?			

B: Crossword Puzzle

Using words from today's article, fill in the crossword puzzle. DO NOT look at the article to find the answer.



Losing Success

(2 points each)

Score ____ /32

ACROSS

- 6 Opposite of "southern"
- 9 Person who tells us the news
- 10 Coach for animals
- 14 Place where a race takes place
- 15 The most important actor or actress in a movie
- 16 Number of horses in Hara-urara last race

DOWN

- 1 Place where animals are raised
- 2 To come in first place
- 3 When someone asks another person many questions
- 4 A pump for blood
- 5 How people feel when they win a race
- 7 People who enjoy watching a sport
- 8 Animals running for a prize
- 11 To end your working life
- 12 Horse "driver"
- 13 Country to the east of South Korea

C: New Words

In the "Additional New Words and Expressions" section of your Reading Journal, add all the words you did not know in today's worksheet.

When you are finished, check your own answers and write your scores!

Answers to Today's Activities

Pre-Reading Activity A: 1. c 2. d 3. a 4. e 5. b
Reading Activity A: 1. c 2. d 3. f 4. a 5. g
Finding Information: 1. a 2. a 3. b 4. b 5. a 6. a 7. b

